under report compared with the previous year's earnings, of which a decrease of Rs. 1·20 lakhs was under coaching traffic mainly due to a fall of nearly 315 thousand in the number of passengers travelling by Railway. The decline in the passenger traffic is attributed to the reduced spending power of the people, slack trade conditions and the increasing road Motor competition. A Committee has been appointed to enquire into the question of Motor Transport in the State and it is hoped that this Committee will be able to suggest means of co-ordinating the two kinds of transport so as to reduce the loss to the Department.

6. *Expenses.*—The ordinary working expenses of the year amounted to Rs. 21·52 lakhs as against Rs. 22·62 lakhs in the previous year, showing a decrease of 1·10 lakhs, the percentage to the gross earnings falling from 69·04 to Rs. 68·82 during the current year.

7. *Stores.*—The year opened with a balance of Rs. 5·70 lakhs and Stores to the extent of Rs. 8·99 lakhs were purchased. The issues inclusive of sales amounted to Rs. 9·72 lakhs, resulting in a closing balance of Rs. 4·97 lakhs at the end of the year.

8. *Accidents.*—The number of persons killed during the year on account of accidents was ten of which three were run over while trespassing the line, and four were killed by derailment of a train on the Narrow Gauge and three others due to injuries. The number of engine failures was 25 as against 43 in the previous year.

9. *General.*—Among the additional railway facilities provided are the following :—

(1) Issue of cheap return tickets on important occasions ;

(2) Grant of concessional fares to encourage the people to take part in the Exhibitions at Mysore and other places ;

(3) Introduction of Shuttle trains between Bangalore City and Channapatna, Kolar and Bowringpet and Mysore and Nanjangud Town ;

(4) Running of special trains on every Sunday on Mysore-Arsikere Railway between Mysore and Belagola to afford facilities to the passengers attending the Shandy at Krishnarajasagara Works.

The working of the Department continued to be satisfactory.

N. MADHAVA RAO,
Chief Secretary to Government.

GENERAL SECRETARIAT.

Administration of the Forest Department for 1931-32.

READ—

The Report on the Administration of the Forest Department in Mysore for the year 1931-32, received from the Chief Conservator of Forests with his letters Nos. Per. 71—31, dated 6th and 31st October 1932.

ORDER NO. G. 5404-20—FT. 123-32-11, DATED BANGALORE, THE 3RD FEBRUARY 1933.

Recorded.

2. *Area of State Forests.*—The area of State Forests at the close of the year was 3,410·55 square miles while that of reserved lands was 370·52 square miles.

3. *Reservation and Settlement.*—The number of blocks awaiting settlement at the close of the year was 54. The settlement work is slow and the Chief Conservator of Forests is requested to arrange, in consultation with the Revenue Commissioner, for the speedy disposal of the proposals for reservation still pending.

4. *Minor Forests.*—The area of Minor Forests was 300·30 square miles at the close of the year. The report referred to in the previous review as to how far the

objects aimed at by the introduction of this scheme have been achieved may be submitted early.

5. *Village Forests.*—The total area of the 240 Village Forests at the close of the year was 93 square miles. The District Forest Officers and the Amildars should be instructed to popularise the scheme by explaining its benefits to the Village Panchayets during their tours.

6. *Demarcation.*—One hundred and ten miles of permanent demarcation lines were cut during the year as against 102 in the previous year and 5,138 miles of existing lines were repaired during the year. It has come to the notice of Government that for want of demarcation lines in some cases, lands lying within the limits of State Forests have been given out for cultivation. The Chief Conservator should see that the permanent demarcation lines are cut all round the State Forests and that the existing lines are repaired every year.

7. *Working Plans.*—The extent of State Forests for which regular working plans have been prepared is now about 54 per cent of the total area. Similar plans for all important timber forests should be prepared and kept up-to-date according to a well regulated programme.

8. *Buildings, Communications and other works.*—A sum of Rs. 17,687 was spent on repairing the existing roads and buildings. New roads to a length of over 18 miles were opened at a cost of Rs. 4,211 and a sum of Rs. 2,463 was spent on new buildings. It is noted with satisfaction that special attention was paid to the improvement of water facilities in some of the forests.

9. *Lumpsum grazing fees.*—The working of the system is not satisfactory, as arrears are accumulating from year to year. The Revenue Commissioner is requested to arrange for the prompt recovery of the outstandings.

10. *Damage to Sandal Trees.*—The number of cases pending disposal at the end of the year was 327 as against 310 in the previous year. It is seen that there are as many as 94 cases pending in the Bangalore District alone and out of these, 24 are several years old. The delay in the disposal of these cases is not satisfactory. The Revenue Commissioner is requested to issue suitable instructions to the Officers concerned to bring the pending cases to final disposal without further delay.

11. *Sandal Patrol Staff.*—The special staff employed on this work was reorganised with a view to improve the efficiency of control over smuggling as well as to effect savings in expenditure. The number of Police Sub-Inspectors was increased and the post of the Assistant Superintendent of Police was abolished. Including the eight cases detected by this Staff in the year there were 15 cases to be dealt with. Of these, nine cases were disposed of and sandalwood worth Rs. 1,000 was recovered. The vigilant watch kept by the staff has minimised smuggling on both the eastern and western frontiers.

12. *Sandalspike disease and its investigation.*—This disease is reported to have spread during the year to the Bastipur Plantation in the Mysore District. The work of investigation is being pushed on vigorously and the study of the problem in the several branches is reported to have yielded interesting results.

13. *Sandal Valuation Survey.*—The number of Rangers employed on this work was reduced to one, the survey operations being confined to Arkalgud Taluk. The Staff enumerated 73,825 trees and submitted reservation proposals in respect of seven blocks and detected 3 cases of damage to sandal trees. The total cost on the scheme amounted to Rs. 3,216. The Chief Conservator should arrange for early completion of the work.

14. *Sandalwood.*—A quantity of 1,093 tons was supplied to the Sandal Oil Factory, during the year and 38 tons sold in retail. The net receipts from the sale of sandalwood oil was only Rs. 11,05,030 as against Rs. 16,77,908 during the previous year.

15. *Lantana and other Plant Pests.*—These pests continue to infest the forests and plantations. The scheme for the grant of lands on concessional terms with a view to reclaim them from Lantana in the Districts of Bangalore and Tumkur is not working satisfactorily as the tenants are reported to have failed to abide by the conditions of the grant. The Chief Conservator is requested to suggest what modifications are necessary for improving the working of the scheme. Experiments undertaken to destroy

prickly-pear by the cochineal insect are yielding satisfactory results in the Kolar District and the insect is reported to have been introduced into the forests of the Bangalore District.

16. *Game Laws.*—The amendments proposed by the Mysore Game Association are under consideration.

17. *Sylviculture and Afforestation.*—It is noted that the year under report was a good one for all the principal species namely Sandal, Teak, Honne, Beete and Mathi. The total area of teak plantations under the management of the Department increased in the year to 8,336 acres and an extent of 1,497 acres was planted with species of economic and fuel value in the Maidan Districts.

18. It is satisfactory to note that the economic and fuel species planted in the Hulikere block are thriving well. The successful stocking of this area will add considerably to the development of the Irwin Canal tract.

19. *Exploitation of Timber.*—The quantities of timber cut in forests, brought into depots and sold during the year were 4,58,208 C.ft., 4,62,233 C.ft. and 5,82,558 C.ft. as against 5,39,878 C.ft., 5,27,913 C.ft. and 4,29,021 C.ft. respectively in the previous year. Besides this, 18,840 sleepers were supplied to the Mysore Railways and 1,453 poles to the Electrical Department. The operations were on a contracted scale owing to the slump in the timber trade.

20. *Demand, Collection and Balance.*—Including Sandal Oil net receipts, the total demand for the year under all the heads amounted to Rs. 30,24,008 of which a sum of Rs. 24,31,290 was actually realised and Rs. 15,989 written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 5,76,729 at the close of the year. Of this balance a sum of Rs. 1,98,857 is reported as not due for collection in the year and another of Rs. 1,29,454 as awaiting write off on account of rebates allowed to Thangadi and Kakke bark contractors. Even allowing for these two items, there was an arrear of about 1½ lakhs. The Chief Conservator is requested to take prompt steps for its collection.

21. *Touring and Inspection.*—The touring work of the District Forest Officers during the year was less than in the previous year. The Chief Conservator is requested to see that the important work of inspection receives full attention within the limits of the grants allowed for the purpose.

22. *Working of the Creosote Plant.*—The plant treated during the year 79,149 C.ft. of timber as against 1,98,234 C.ft. in the previous year. The net revenue during the year was Rs. 46,952 after providing Rs. 20,645 towards the depreciation charges.

23. *Fuel supply to the Mysore Iron Works and other concerns.*—A quantity of 65,234 tons of fuel was supplied to the Mysore Iron Works and quantities amounting to 2,943 tons to the Sandal Wood Oil Factory, the Serum Institute at Bangalore and the Water Works at Shimoga.

24. *Lac Industry.*—A total quantity of 1,137 maunds of crude lac was collected during the year. The demand for washed lac and lac products was poor and only a small quantity was sold during the year for Rs. 4,448.

25. *Rafting of Timber.*—Nineteen thousand, six hundred and seventy cubic feet of timber was rafted down the Kabini river as against 6,842 C.ft. in the year previous and this operation is reported to have resulted in a saving on the cost of transport of the material.

26. *Saw Mills.*—The Saw Mills at Shimoga worked for 226 days during the year and dealt with a quantity of 72,504 C.ft. of timber. The revenue realised by the sale of articles in the furniture section of the Mills was Rs. 5,144 as against Rs. 880 in the preceding year. The Saw Mill at Kalkere does not appear to be working properly. The Chief Conservator is requested to report what action has been taken to reduce its working to order.

27. *Timber Seasoning.*—Experiments in the seasoning of different kinds of timber started at Shimoga last year are being continued and observations recorded. The data collected about air seasoning and girdling will, if confirmed by further tests and experiments prove to be of great value.

28. *Forest Objection Book and other Advances.*—The amount held under objection outstanding at the close of the year was Rs. 29,075 as against Rs. 36,738 of last year. Steps should be taken to effect adjustments early. The revised rules relating to advances for works should be strictly enforced and prompt action taken for the clearance of advances.

29. The work of the Department during the year was satisfactory.

S. ABDUL WAJID,
General Secretary to Government.
(In charge)

PUBLIC WORKS SECRETARIAT.

Administration of the Electrical Department for the year 1931-32.

READ—

Letter No. 79741, dated the 15th October 1932, from the Chief Electrical Engineer submitting the Administration Report of the Electrical Department for the year 1931-32.

ORDER No. E. D. S. 1167-73, DATED BANGALORE, 4TH FEBRUARY 19 33.

Demand, Collection and Balance.—The gross demand for the year was Rs. 52,63,911 including the previous arrears of Rs. 2,33,303. The collection under "Power" amounted to Rs. 50,33,479. The budget estimate of the Department including Telephones for the year 1931-32 under "Receipts" was Rs. 49·95 lakhs, while the actual receipts amounted to Rs. 50·66 lakhs showing an increase of Rs. 71,000 over the Budget. The arrears at the end of the year stood at Rs. 2,30,432 and of this, a sum of Rs. 1,87,387 due from the Gold Mining Companies and Municipalities is reported to have been since realised. The balance of Rs. 43,045 represents mostly the arrears payable by Government Departments and the Mysore Municipality. The Chief Electrical Engineer is requested to see that arrears are not allowed to accumulate and that prompt action is taken for the recovery of outstandings.

2. *Working Expenditure.*—The working expense under "Power" during the year amounted to Rs. 10,73,718 as against Rs. 11,18,625 in the previous year. The percentage of working expenses to gross receipts works out to 21·33 during the year against 22·18 during 1930-31 and 21·90 in 1929-30. The decrease during the year is due to the several measures of economy adopted, including a general cut in salaries and reduction of staff.

3. *Revenue Returns.*—The net revenue during the year after setting apart the contribution of Rs. 6,50,000 to the Depreciation Fund and of Rs. 43,899 to the Departmental Provident Fund amounted to Rs. 32,05,530 as against Rs. 33,97,862 in the previous year. The decrease in revenue is mainly due to an additional contribution of Rs. 1,60,000 to the "Depreciation Fund" towards the write-off of the capital value of the Metur Power Supply Lines and connected equipment which will have to be dismantled after the expiry of the term of agreement with the Government of Madras.

4. *Capital Outlay.*—The capital outlay under "Power" excluding suspense amounted to Rs. 9,46,753. An expenditure of Rs. 11,633 was incurred on Automatic Telephones. A sum of Rs. 3,97,102 was spent from the Depreciation Fund. The more important of the works completed or under execution during the year were the following:—

(*a*) *Electrification of Towns and Rural Areas.*—The works in connection with the electrification of Hoskote and Mulbagal Towns and of the villages of Mallakachanahally, Mancheganahally, Sonnawadi, Chikamuddenahalli, Kengeri, Manchenahalli and Satnur were taken up during the year and are nearing completion.